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United States Patent [19]**Wilkinson**[11] **Patent Number:** **6,053,549**[45] **Date of Patent:** **Apr. 25, 2000**[54] **TORPEDO NOSE LIFT DEVICE**[75] **Inventor:** **William S. Wilkinson**, North
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represented by the Secretary of the
Navy**, Washington, D.C.[21] **Appl. No.:** **09/173,613**[22] **Filed:** **Oct. 13, 1998**[51] **Int. Cl.⁷** **B66C 1/16; B66C 13/08**[52] **U.S. Cl.** **294/81.3; 294/67.5; 294/74;
294/81.55**[58] **Field of Search** 294/67.1, 67.21,
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81.3, 81.4, 81.5, 81.55, 82.12, 82.26, 149-157;
248/58-60, 62, 74.1, 74.3[56] **References Cited****U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

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Gauthier; Prithvi C. Lall[57] **ABSTRACT**

In accordance with the present invention, a single point lifting device is provided for a torpedo nose section. The device has two parallel plates, spaced slightly apart with edges placed longitudinally on the nose section. The edges are shaped to fit the nose section contour. A T-shaped member is inverted and fixed between the two plates, each edge of the horizontal leg suitably attached to one of the plates to form an H-shaped section with the vertical leg of the T extending upwards. Two cinch straps extend around the nose section and lifting device to securely hold the plates against the nose section. A metal strap extends between the cinch straps on the opposite side of the nose section from the plates to prevent the cinch straps from slipping off the contoured nose section. To accommodate the varying centers of gravity for different nose component configurations, the lifting hook placement along the T-section can be varied or the T-section can be moved fore and aft between the parallel plates.

13 Claims, 2 Drawing Sheets